

WORSLEY URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.


INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Sanitary Inspector
FOR THE YEAR 1944.





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Worsley Urban District Council.

Chairman of the Council: Councillor E. MANN, J.P.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1944.

Councillor J. PENNINGTON, J.P., C.C., Chairman.

Councillor J. DARLINGTON, Vice-Chairman.

All Members of the Council.

Clerk of the Council—

H. LOMAX, Esq.

Medical Officer of Health—

C. H. T. WADE, M.D., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H., to October.

M. K. CARROLL, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O., N.U.I., Nov.—Dec.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—

T. ISHERWOOD,

M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S., M.R.I.P.H.H.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

T. BAINES, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., A.R.P.S., to October.

Lady Clerks and Typists—

Mrs. A. HALLAM and Miss BERYL BENNETT.

INTERIM REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1944

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Worsley.

October, 1945.

Mrs. Wood and Gentlemen,

As you are aware, I started duties as Medical Officer of Health in November, 1944, following the resignation of Dr. Wade.

I have much pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for the year 1944, although the greater portion of the report relates to work done during the term of office of my predecessor.

The chief change in the department was the resignation of Mr. T. Baines, the Additional Sanitary Inspector, who was followed by Mr. F. Haworth.

Several cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year but it was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

Diphtheria.—There were five cases during the year, none of which were serious. Of these, three had not been immunised and the other two were said to have been immunised but we have no record of this on our books. Immunisation has been carried out regularly with special attention to pre-school children and about 80% of school children and babies have been protected. Diphtheria, which was once regarded as responsible for the highest mortality amongst children between the ages of 1 and 12 years, is now completely under control, thanks to the protection given to them by Immunisation.

As Public Health and Hygiene have always been associated with the prevention of disease in a district I certainly think an outstanding success has been achieved in this direction.

There have been a number of cases of Whooping Cough in the district but here again the preventive idea has been extended and seems to shorten the duration and diminish the spasm of the cough.

Puerperal Sepsis has been entirely absent. This is largely due to Ante-natal care and also to the facilities for dealing immediately with this condition when it first appears.

Tuberculosis.—The number of new cases dropped from thirty in 1943 to twenty-five in 1944. There were only nine deaths last year against fifteen in 1943.

Cancer and diseases of the heart caused the greatest number of deaths although it was noticeable that a large number of the deaths were of people who had reached an advanced age. The age at death was remarkably high.

The Death rate for Worsley of 10.9 per 1,000 is lower than the average for England and Wales, which is 11.9 per 1,000.

The Birth rate, 20.3, is higher than the average of 18 per 1,000 for the rest of the country and the Infantile Mortality rate, 23.6 per 1,000, is considerably lower than the 46 per 1,000 for the whole of England and Wales.

The most regrettable incident during my term as Medical Officer was due to enemy action when a child was killed last Christmas by the last bomb which dropped in Worsley.

From my observations as Medical Officer of Health and my knowledge of the district, obtained by intimate and personal contact due to my medical practice, I consider the health of the district to be highly satisfactory.

Table I. - STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Area—7,242 acres.

Population—Registrar General's estimate of:—

(a)	resident population mid 1944	...	24,860
(b)	average population for calculation of death rates 1944	... ..	24,860

No. of inhabited houses, according to Rate Books at the end of 1944—7,765.

Rateable Value 1944—£139,576.

Sum represented by a penny rate 1944—£550.

Table II. - VITAL STATISTICS, 1944.

			Total	M.	F.	Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population—20.3.
Live Births	Legitimate	...	486	258	228	
	Illegitimate	...	19	9	10	
	Total	...	<u>505</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>238</u>	
Still Births	...	...	11	8	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births—21.3.
Deaths (all ages)	...	...	721	128	143	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated average population—10.9.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes :—

Puerperal Sepsis	...	Nil.
Other puerperal causes		Nil.

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	23.7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...				24.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...				Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	48
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil.
„ „ Whooping-cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil.
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	Nil.

The Birth Rate (20.3) is higher than that for England and Wales (18.0) and the Death Rate (10.9) is lower (11.9).

The Infantile Mortality Rate (23.0) is lower than that for England and Wales (46.0).

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

Table III.—CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1944.

CLASSIFIED LIST OF CAUSES.

							Males	Females
Carcinoma	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	31
Coronary Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	2
Cerebral Thrombosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	23
Myocardial degeneration	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	56
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
Accidental Death	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
War operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	—
Child Birth	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Parkinson's disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Mitral Stenosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sclerosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Hyperpiesia	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Hypertension	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Chronic Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Angina Pectoris	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Epilepsy	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Duodenal Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	5
							<hr/>	<hr/>
All Causes							128	143
TOTAL							...	271.

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There has been no important change in these provisions during the year.

The following pathological and bacteriological examinations were made during 1944 :—

(1)	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	35
(2)	Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	1
(3)	Pleural Fluid	...	...	...	...	...	1
(4)	Milk :—						
(a)	Biological	...	...	...	...	...	43
	(Two contained Tubercle Bacilli).						
(b)	Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	51
	(19 found to be unsatisfactory).						

Ten of the unsatisfactory samples were from one dealer whom we were assisting to discover the cause of poor samples.

Ambulance Facilities.—These are provided by arrangement with the Manchester Collieries. A saloon car for sitting cases is now used in addition. This service has been much appreciated. The ambulance made 451 journeys during the year and the saloon car 994 journeys and conveyed 1028 patients.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply, Drainage, Sewerage, Rivers and Streams.—Many streams in the district are polluted.

Sanitary Accommodation.—No changes have occurred.

Sanitary Inspections.—A detailed statement of inspections by the Senior Sanitary Inspector is appended.

Bug Infested Houses.—Bugs were found in several houses. Rooms were sprayed with liquid insecticide, which apparently destroyed the bugs.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

Defects which have been found or notified have received attention.

There was little gross overcrowding but the situation is growing worse.

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

(a) Licences.—The following licences under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938, have been issued :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Distribution	1
Accredited Milk	(1) Bottling	Nil.
	(2) Distribution	Nil.
Pasteurised Milk	(1) Plants	Nil.
	(2) Retail Distributors	3

(b) Dairies, Milk Shops.—There are 59 milk purveyors, other than cow-keepers. Regular inspections of the premises were made during the year.

(c) Farms.—There are 30 dairy farms and 500 cows in the District. All the farms were inspected at least twice during the year with a view to cleanliness, limewashing and structural condition. The cleanliness of the cows and of the milkers was also watched, together with methods for sterilising the utensils, cooling, bottling and sterilising the milk. Scarcity of labour has been blamed for a lower standard of cleanliness, particularly with regard to milk bottles. This is receiving special attention.

(d) Samples.

(1) For tuberculous milk—43 samples were taken.

2 contained the Tubercle Bacilli. These were notified to the County Medical Officer, who had a Veterinary examination made. The cows giving the infected milk were discovered and disposed of under the Tuberculosis Order.

(2) For bacterial content—

51 samples Methylene blue test and B Coli test.
19 were unsatisfactory.

Immediate improvement occurred after visits to the farms producing milk with a high bacterial content.

Meat Supply.—All local slaughter-houses ceased to be used on Sunday midnight, the 14th January, 1940.

Bakehouses, Food Shops, Fish Fryers and Meat Shops.—Routine inspections have been made during the year. There are no unusual circumstances to report.

No cases of food poisoning were notified in 1944.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Scarlet Fever was widespread and continued throughout the year. The cases were mild, the rash being slight and transient, with the probability that many passed unnoticed.

There were no deaths due to Scarlet Fever or other notifiable infectious disease.

There were five diphtheria cases, none serious, two of the children affected were said to have been immunised but we have no record.

By arrangement with the County Police, diphtheria antitoxin is stored at Walkden Police Station, as well as at the Town Hall. It is available day and night for doctors in the District.

Table IV.

Disease	Corr'cted Total of notified cases	Cases admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	89	54	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup)	5	4	—
Measles	60	2	—
Whooping cough	12	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	1	—	2
Erysipelas... ..	4	1	—
Opthalmia Neonatorum	6	—	—
 Total number of cases ...	 177	 61	 2

TABLE V.—NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1944.

DISEASE.	Total cases at all Ages.	CASES NOTIFIED.											
		Under 1 yr.	YEARS.										65 and over
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	
Scarlet Fever ...	89	1	—	2	6	—	48	20	1	—	1	1	—
Diphtheria (including membranous croup) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
Measles (excluding German Measles) ...	60	2	6	7	6	5	29	4	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping-cough ...	12	2	1	1	1	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia (primary & influenzal) ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	6	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	177	11	7	10	14	17	83	27	3	—	2	2	1

Diphtheria Immunisation.

A full report of the Council's scheme was given last year. The Birthday card scheme successfully appealed to many parents to have their babies protected against diphtheria. Regular immunisation clinics have been held throughout the year. It became evident from enquiries made that many children had been immunised privately, 80 per cent. of the children between 1—5 years have been immunised, which is a very satisfactory state of affairs.

The actual numbers of children immunised under the Council's scheme during 1944 are as follows :—

Age 1—5 years.	Age 5—15 years.	Total.
174	86	260

TABLE VI.

Percentage of children immunised :

				Age 1—5 years.	Age 5—15 years.
31st	December,	1941	... ..	40%	50%
„	„	1942	... ..	43%	63%
„	„	1943	... ..	75%	75%
„	„	1944	... ..	71%	74%

TUBERCULOSIS.

Table VII.
NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1943.

Age Periods.				NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
				Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry		Resp't'y		non-Resp't'ry'	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Years	0—1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
„	1—5	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
„	5—10	...	...	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—
„	10—15	...	...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
„	15—20	...	...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
„	20—25	...	...	1	4	—	1	—	2	—	—
„	25—35	...	...	1	2	2	1	1	1	—	—
„	35—45	...	...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
„	45—55	...	...	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
„	55—65	...	...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
„	65 & upwards	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals				7	9	5	4	3	6	—	—
				25				9			

Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1940-42.—These Regulations require particulars of all persons of certain specified ages who have been on the Tuberculosis Register to be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour; the object is to draw the attention of the Medical Boards for enlistment in His Majesty's Forces. Several names were notified in 1944.

Smoke Abatement.—The law relating to smoke abatement has been temporarily relaxed.

Canal Boats.—Nineteen inspections were made during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory. No women or children were living on board the boats; in no case was there more than one male living on board. No infectious disease occurred and there was no contravention of any of the regulations.

M. K. CARROLL,
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1944.

Town Hall,
Walkden.

September, 1945.

To the Chairman and Members of
Worsley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Wood and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my fourth Annual Report on work carried out by the Public Health Department during 1944.

The work is progressing but war-time activities are still taking the place of the real work of a Public Health Department.

Complaints of nuisances are still being received and dealt with, but owing to the scarcity of materials and labour only urgent necessary repairs can receive attention. Every scrap of timber and metal has to be obtained by permits which are sometimes difficult to obtain.

Mr. T. Baines, additional Sanitary Inspector, left the Department in October for a situation at Herne Bay.

Mrs. A. Hallam and Miss Beryl Bennett are still in the Department.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS.

Houses Inspected for defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	284
Roofs defective	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Raingutters	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Window frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
General defects	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Doors	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Wash Boilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dangerous walls	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Slop sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Burst water pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Gas leaks	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fireplaces	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
Farms	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Privy Middens	...	...	...	...	...	...	68
Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	151
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	202
Vermin (Bugs, etc.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Rats	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Unfit food inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Milk Sampling	...	...	...	...	...	...	94
Re-inspections and miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	752
Total							2,227

FOOD INSPECTION.

The following food was surrendered on demand as being unfit for human consumption. Large quantities were destroyed, but as much as possible was salvaged for fats or for use as pig and poultry food. A large number of damaged tins of food are returned to the Regional Salvage Officer in order that the contents may be reconditioned before they become unfit for human food.

	Tins.	Weight.
Pig's Head and Pluck (T.B.) .....	...	100 lbs.
Pig's Head & Pluck (Pericarditis) .....	...	3 „
Marmalade	50	118 „
Jam	9	15½ „
Unsweetened Milk	533	484 „
Full Cream Sweetened Milk	32	29½ „
Pork Luncheon Meat	23	50½ „
Corned Mutton	121	258 „
Corned Beef	2259	7326¾ „
Corned Pork	1	6 „
Chopped Ham	10	23¼ „
Beef Loaf	1	¾ „
Tang	1	¾ „
Prem	1	¾ „
Sausage .....	...	26 „
Minced Beef	4	3 „
Frozen Beef .....	...	85 „
Pork Trimmings .....	...	11 „
Cooked Lamb .....	...	30 „
Bacon .....	...	31 „
Casserole Steak	11	11 „
Cheese .....	...	3½ „
Pilchards	5	5 „
Salmon, Grade 1	2	1¼ „
Salmon, Grade 3	1	2 „
Heinz Beans	1	1 „
Beans in Tomato	1	1 „
Carrots	4	4 „
Butter .....	...	10½ „
Plums	4	8 „
Pineapple Pulp	7	47½ „
Apples	1	8 „
	3082	8705½ lbs.
		or
	3 tons	17 cwts. 81½ lbs.

COLLECTION OF REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

We have three Vulcan wagons with steel trailers and two Karrier Bantam wagons in constant use for the collection of salvage and refuse. Approximately 5,000 tons of refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping at Berryfield. This tip is almost filled up.

The amount of salvage collected during the year was 365 tons, 8 cwts. 3 qrs. This was sold for £1,208 1s. 9d.

The amount of edible waste collected and sent to Bolton for conversion into pig food remained fairly constant during the year in spite of licences granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries to private collectors. 163 tons 9 cwts. were collected and sold for £225 3s. 6d.

The following list shows the composition of the salvage and the amount collected each month.

SALVAGE COLLECTED DURING THE YEAR 1944 WAS MADE UP AS FOLLOWS:—

Material.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Paper	161	5	0	814	15	4
Kitchen Waste	170	17	0	256	5	6
Iron	11	16	2	20	13	10
Textiles	14	15	1	85	9	9
Rubber	2	15	0	2	15	3
Bones	3	11	3	17	3	3
Lead	0	2	3	1	18	5
Aluminium	0	3	1	6	7	2
Brass	0	1	1	1	5	0
Copper	0	1	0	1	8	3
Totals ...	365	8	3	£1208	1	9

LIST OF SALVAGE COLLECTED DURING YEAR 1944.

Month.	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
January	39	12	1	135	16	11
February	29	11	0	103	4	4
March	35	15	0	114	5	3
April	33	1	2	117	0	1
May	34	7	0	98	11	7
June	27	0	3	81	15	8
July	30	13	3	115	5	7

August	35	1	3	125	2	10
September	23	11	3	79	2	4
October	28	10	0	92	17	5
November	24	1	2	76	14	8
December	24	2	2	68	5	1
	<hr/>			<hr/>		
	365	8	3	£1208	1	9
	<hr/>			<hr/>		

In addition to the above work the usual routine of the department is proceeding as smoothly as war-time conditions allow. Every complaint is investigated and dealt with as circumstances permit. Rat baits are provided and placed where necessary. Powder and insecticides are issued when required. Disinfectants are supplied in all cases of infectious disease and when otherwise necessary. Ambulance facilities are provided. Camp sites are inspected and the removal of refuse arranged. The American Army camp in the grounds of the New Hall made a considerable claim on the resources of the department.

During the year 22 licences for the storage of petrol were issued and 4 for the storage of calcium carbide.

Bakehouses, farms, dairies, factories, food premises and canal boats are kept under observation and the whole District is being supervised as consistently as possible.

I have the honour to be,

Madam and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

THOMAS ISHERWOOD,

Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.

